



South Dakota Department of the Military  
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



## SHIUX FALLS GUARD UNIT HONORED AT DEPLOYMENT CEREMONY

Fourteen Soldiers from the 927th Engineer Detachment (Survey and Design Team), South Dakota Army National Guard, were honored at a deployment ceremony on Friday, July 6, at the Multi-Cultural Center (515 N. Main Avenue) in Sioux Falls,. They will deploy for a nine-month tour to Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard, Sen. Tim Johnson and Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, the adjutant general of the SDNG, were key speakers at the ceremony.

The Sioux Falls-based 927th has a mission to plan, conduct, prepare and provide planning studies and tests for identified engineer work projects. They also provide guidance, legal descriptions, certification and surveys for engineer projects.

The unit will report to Fort Bliss, Texas, to complete several weeks of theater-specific training prior to deployment overseas. This is the first mobilization for the 927th.



### *Inside this issue:*

Missouri Lions All State Band Performs for South Dakota Veterans	2
Veterans Day at the SD State Fair	2
Veterans Job Fair	3
70th Anniversary of Sioux Falls Army Technical School	4
Hot Springs Canteen Awarded	5
Future Guard Leaders Learn From the Past	5
Upcoming Events	6

## MISSOURI LIONS ALL STATE HONOR BAND PERFORMS FOR VETERANS

The Missouri Lions All-State Honor Band, consisting of 60 students from all over the state of Missouri, performed for the veterans at the Michael J Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home in Hot Springs.

Having just four days of practice together they performed at St. Joseph, MO; Cameron, MO; Crazy Horse; Spearfish; Ft. Hays & Hot Springs.

The residents enjoyed the performance and visiting with the students afterwards.



## VETERANS DAY AT THE STATE FAIR

The 2012 South Dakota State Fair will be held Thursday, August 30—Monday, September 3.

This year's theme for the South Dakota State Fair is "Taste the Fun."

Thursday, August 30, has been designated as "salute to veterans and military personnel." All veterans and active military personnel will be given free gate admission.

Veterans organizations and county veterans service officers will be manning the 'Veterans Building,' on Flag Avenue.





## VETERANS JOB FAIR

The South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, along, with numerous partners within the veteran network, will sponsor a Veterans' Job Fair on Wednesday, August 15, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. The Job Fair will be held at the VFW Post #628 (3601 S. Minnesota Avenue in Sioux Falls).

Veterans who are under-employed, unemployed or seeking new employment are encouraged to attend.

This job fair is for reserve, national guard, those no longer on active duty, and those on active duty and their spouses.

Resumes and references are recommended. For more information, call 605.367.5300 or visit [www.sdjobs.org](http://www.sdjobs.org).



# Veterans & Spouses Job Fair

Wednesday, August 15, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

VFW Post #628, 3601 S. Minnesota Ave.

## Sioux Falls



Visit with over 50 local and regional employers about job opportunities.

## 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIOUX FALLS ARMY TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Friday, July 6, marks the 70th Anniversary of the official dedication of the Sioux Falls Army Technical School.

Opened on July 6, 1942 the base quickly became a critical military resource for training Radio-Operator-Mechanics or "ROMs". Classes at the school reached peak strength of over 27,000 soldiers at one time. It was estimated that half of the ROMs in Europe were trained in Sioux Falls.

After closing on May 31, 1945, as a Technical School the base, on June 1, 1945, became the Sioux Falls Army Air Field for a short period of time. It then served as a redeployment center for men moving from Europe to the Pacific for the continuing war with Japan. In three months a total of 47,738 men came and went while another 10,000 were awaiting separation by the end of September 1945. On December 31, 1945 the Army Air Field was officially deactivated and the property reverted to the city of Sioux Falls.

To commemorate the event, the Siouxland Heritage Museums will display the Radiomen Exhibit on the first floor of the Old Courthouse Museum (6<sup>th</sup> and Main) through July 13.

Museums details are available at: <http://www.siouxlandmuseums.com/>

In celebration of the 70th anniversary of the Sioux Falls Army Air Force Technical Training Command Radio Training School, the *Radiomen* exhibit will return to the first floor of the Old Courthouse Museum July 2nd-13th.



## HOT SPRINGS CANTEEN SERVICE AWARDED GOLDEN FORK

The Hot Springs Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) Café' was selected for the VCS Golden Fork Award.

Winning canteens were announced at the National Conference and Awards banquet held May 24, 2012 in St. Charles, MO. Three canteens, one for each major canteen category, were selected from among all the canteens nominated. Marsha Simmons accepted the award on behalf of the Hot Springs VSC Café'.

Canteens selected for this award had to pass a demanding evaluation process that included: (1) evaluation of photos submitted for local catering events on the basis of presentation, decoration, creativity and originality and (2) Recommendation from their respective VA Medical Center Director.

A panel of VCS senior staff evaluated each nomination and selected the winners from each category.



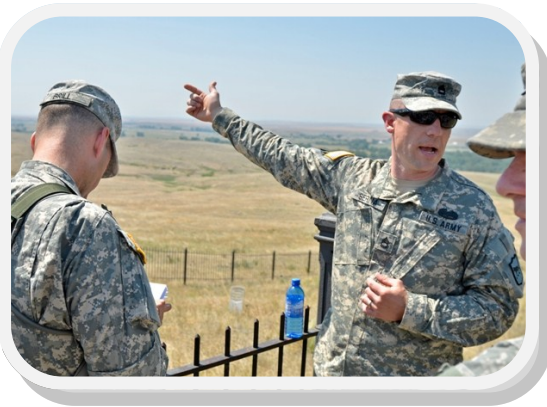
## FUTURE GUARD LEADERS LEARN FROM THE PAST

Soldiers traveled from Fort Meade to the Little Bighorn Battlefield near Garryowen, Mont., July 4, to study the successes and failures of both sides of the battle known as "Custer's Last Stand." An analysis of the historic battle is one of the major events required for students to graduate from the 58-day commissioning program and become 2nd lieutenants in the Army National Guard.

The Little Bighorn Battlefield is the location where the more than 260 soldiers and personnel of the U.S. Army's 7th Cavalry, led by Lt. Col. George A. Custer, made their famous "Last Stand" against the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians in 1876.

"Studying military history teaches junior military leaders to think in terms of terrain and tactics," said Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Wall, an instructor at the 196th. "This leads to rapid and effective decision making." Wall said the art of tactics starts with applying a scientific formula specific to the situation. Military leaders then need to be able to think imaginatively and out-think the enemy in terms of time and space. Studying the Little Bighorn Battlefield provided students with the opportunity to see how decisions made on the battlefield were impacted by terrain.

Students will now apply what they have learned in the classroom, as well as the battle site in order to present a military information brief to complete their academic requirements.





# Upcoming Events

July 11—SD Veterans Council Meeting—American Legion Post 15—Sioux Falls—10:30 am  
July 21-22—Sioux Falls Air Show  
Jul. 21—SD Convoy of Hope Stand Down—Rapid City  
July 28-29—Thirty-Day Yellow Ribbon Event for the 189th AVN—Rapid City  
Aug 4-5— American Legion Riders Chapter 7 Poker Run—Hot Springs  
Aug. 15—Veterans Job Fair—Sioux Falls VFW (3601 S. Minnesota Avenue) 10:00 am—2:00 pm  
Aug. 23—VABHHCS Stand Down—Rosebud/Mission  
Aug. 27-29—VSO Annual Benefits School—Pierre  
Aug. 27—VABHHCS Stand Down—Rapid City  
Aug. 29—Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Stand Down—McLaughlin  
Aug. 30—Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Stand Down— Eagle Butte  
Aug. 30– Sept. 3—SD State Fair—Huron (Veterans Day—Aug. 30)  
Sept. 11-Stand Down—Wagner National Guard Armory—610 E. SD HWY 46 (10:00 am—2:00 pm)  
Sept. 21—Stand Down—Sioux Falls - VFW— 3601 S. Minnesota Ave. (9:00 am—3:00 pm)  
Sept. 25—Stand Down—Aberdeen Civic Center—203 S. Washington (2:00 pm—7:00 pm)  
Sept. 25 Pierre Homeless Connect

Audry Ricketts, Public Information Officer  
South Dakota Department of the Military  
South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs  
Soldiers and Sailors Building  
425 E Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501  
Phone: 605-773-8242  
E-mail address: [audry.ricketts@state.sd.us](mailto:audry.ricketts@state.sd.us)  
Web site: <http://mva.sd.gov>

